

Virginia Department of Emergency Management
Virginia Emergency Operations Center
10501 Trade Court, Richmond, VA 23236

Spot Report # 2
Hurricane Gustav and Tropical Storm Hanna
30 August 2008 1600 Hours

***Summary:**

State and Federal Officials continue preparations along the Gulf Coast for eventual landfall of Hurricane Gustav. Pre-positioning of assets in potentially affected areas are taking place with initial implementation of hurricane response plans. The States of Texas, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, Tennessee and Oklahoma have declared a state of emergency and are leaning forward and preparing for a response. Presidential Declarations have been signed for Louisiana, Texas and Mississippi. The Virginia Emergency Operations Center (VEOC) continues to work EMAC requests that have been received from the affected Gulf Coast States. The VEOC continues to monitor the Hurricane Gustav and Tropical Storm Hanna and at this time remains at routine operations with minimal additional staffing.

Hurricane Gustav has intensified to a CAT 4 Hurricane and continues to strengthen and could become a CAT 5 Hurricane either before or shortly after crossing Western Cuba. At 1700 hours the eye of Hurricane Gustav was located about 130 miles east of the western tip of Cuba. Gustav is moving toward the northwest near 14 mph. This motion is expected to continue for the next couple of days. On this track, the center of Gustav will pass over western Cuba today and tonight and move into the southern Gulf of Mexico early Sunday and reach the northern Gulf by Monday morning. Maximum sustained winds are near 150 mph.

At 1700 hours Tropical Storm Hanna was located 260 miles East North East of Grand Turk Island moving West North West at 7 mph. Maximum sustained winds were near 50 mph with gradual strengthening forecast over the next day or two.

VDEM / VEOC:

- The Virginia Emergency Operations Center remains at routine operations while monitoring the current movement of both Hurricane Gustav and tropical Storm Hanna and is maintaining situational awareness.
- The VEOC participated in DHS and FEMA senior management and Logistics teleconferences throughout the day outlining the current and future Federal plans in response to these potentially dangerous storms.
- The VEOC is responding to Emergency Management Assistance Compact requests from states in the Gulf Region and continues to poll jurisdictions and State Agencies for available resources if requested.
- An event has been created in WEB EOC entitled 2008 09 Hurricane Gustav.

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Virginia EMAC Resource Requests Actions:

- A State EMAC broadcast has been sent reference for 12 EMS Type II ambulance strike teams. Currently the Office of Emergency Medical Service is handling this request.
- The VEOC is indentifying 2nd A Team members for possible deployment to operations in Louisiana, Mississippi and Texas.
- The VEOC is identifying Law Enforcement Task Forces, Incident Management Teams (IMT) and Base Camp Operations personnel in anticipation of EMAC requests and deployment.
- Checking availability of Emergency Operations Support and/or Incident Management Teams to work in local affected counties.
- Putting together cost estimates for 7 ambulance strike teams.
- Mississippi will be utilizing 2 @ 14 man EOC/IMT teams from Northern Virginia. We expect these teams to receive deployment orders within the next couple of days. Cost Estimates and Requisitions are being worked at this time. No assets have deployed.
- Working on getting a 30 officer VA DGIF Law Enforcement Taskforce deployed to La. Have submitted estimated cost to La for this mission, but have not received a Requisition at this time.
- A 30 to 40 person Incident Management Team (IMT) from the NCR. Fairfax Fire/EMS will be the lead and will also be forming 12 person IMTs in case they are needed.
- Putting together a list of assets from the Commonwealth that will be available if requested.
- Beginning to assess in state shelter capability in case it is needed.

Federal Missions (Direct Deployment):

- The Virginia Taskforce One Urban Search and Rescue (USAR) Advance Team known as the Blue Team and Red Team out of Fairfax, VA are enroute to Houston and Atlanta at this time in preparation for support.
- The USAR Team from Virginia Beach was deployed today, 30 August to Houston, Texas to support operations.
- Virginia National Guard also advises that there are still a large number of travel trailers located at Ft. Pickett
- We standing by, if needed, to load the 218,000 MREs stored at Sandston, VA. The units will be replaced as soon as possible if they are ordered up.

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